

plentiful, but was by no means common near Beira. I have also observed it in marshy ground near Legogot, East Transvaal. From *G. media* it can always be distinguished on the wing, not only by its darker appearance, but by its much quicker flight. *G. nigripennis* does not always call on being flushed. It occasionally strikes the telegraph wires, and I had a bird brought to me by a native near Beira on Jan. 28, 1907, that had broken its wing by contact with the wire.]

754. *LARUS DOMINICANUS*.

CC. Port Nolloth, Sept. (1 juv.).

745. *LARUS HARTLAUBI*.

CC. Port Nolloth, Sept. (1).

II.—Notes on the Ornithology of Corsica.—Part III.

By the Rev. FRANCIS C. R. JOURDAIN, M.A., M.B.O.U.

[Continued from Vol. v. p. 458.]

90. *PRUNELLA COLLARIS* (Scop.). Alpine Accentor.

Prunella collaris tshusii Schiebel, Orn. Jahrb. xvi. p. 102 (1910—Corsica).

Resident, confined to the higher peaks during the summer and descending to lower ground during the winter months. Dr. Schiebel describes the upper surface of a male and of a female as being darker than in Balkan specimens, and the dark markings on the back as being much broader and more deeply coloured than in continental birds. He found them haunting the mountain-tops, broken by snowfields, at about 5500 ft. and upwards, in the middle of the island in June, and obtained the type on Monte d'Oro. Dr. Parrot also found a female in the market at Ajaccio on January 24. Further comparison seems to be needed before this form can be accepted.

91. *PRUNELLA MODULARIS MODULARIS* (L.). European Hedge-Sparrow.

A common winter visitor from the Continent, and probably also resident in small numbers. Wharton found it haunting low cover on the hills to the west of the island, but not on the east side or at Corte : while Backhouse and Parrot found it common near Ajaccio in winter, though Whitehead only noticed a few at that season. Parrot thinks it possible that the shorter-winged (66 and 68·5 mm.) and darker-backed specimens obtained may belong to a resident race, but further evidence is required. We did not meet with the bird at all in summer.

92. *TROGLODYTES TROGLODYTES KOENIGI* Schieb. Corsican Wren.

Troglodytes troglodytes koenigi Schiebel, Orn. Jahrb. xxi. p. 102 (1910—Corsica).

Local names : *Mucchiaiolo*, *Muraiolo* (Giglioli).

A common resident, especially in the mountain forests and in the hill-villages, from 2000 to 3500 ft. It differs from the continental form in the colder earthy brown of the upper side and lacks the rusty tinge of European birds, besides being more distinctly barred. A nest inside a deserted cottage in the mountains contained six eggs on May 20, while others were still empty, and Whitehead obtained eggs on June 11, but Parrot found an almost completed nest on March 22. Possibly some of the winter birds on the low ground may be immigrants (*cf.* Orn. Jahrb. 1910, p. 215).

93. *CINCLUS CINCLUS SAPSWORTHII* Arrig. Corsican Dipper.

Cinclus cinclus sapsworthii Arrigoni, Atlante ornitologico, p. 150 (1902—Corsica). *Cf.* Sapsworth, Bull. B. O. C. xi. p. 12 (Oct. 1900).

Local names : *Merlo acquaiolo* ; *Merlo pescatore* (Giglioli).

Resident on the mountain-streams in Corsica and Sardinia ; a few being found on most of the east coast streams, while, according to Giglioli, it is abundant on the Tavignano, Restonica, and Orta near Corte. It closely resembles the Scandinavian form, having the under side below the white throat uniform

chocolate-brown, but the crown and nape are lighter and more grey in tone, and the wing is, as a rule, much shorter. Nothing has been recorded as to the breeding-habits of this race. In mid-May I came across a pair haunting some very broken ground in a ravine at about 2500 ft., but though I explored much likely ground I failed to find any trace of the nest.

94. *CINCLUS CINCLUS MERIDIONALIS* Brehm. South-European Dipper.

A winter visitor, once recorded. Hartert (Vög. pal. Fauna, i. p. 791) gives a single winter bird from Corsica (Whitehead coll.) as belonging to this race.

95. *CHELIDON RUSTICA* (L.). Swallow.

Local names: *Rondina* (Giglioli); *Rundulla* (gen.).

A very common summer visitor to all the low ground, but not ranging very high in the mountains, where it is replaced in the hill-villages by the House-Martin. Many individuals, of course, only visit the island on passage. First arrival noted on March 14 (*Wharton*); March 16, 1883, and March 22, 1884 (*Whitehead*); March 28 (*Parrot*). Full clutches may be found by the middle of May. Jesse notes that the colour of the breast varied from pure white to pale chestnut in a flock near Lake Biguglia on April 17. A few were seen on passage south by Whitehead on November 16.

96. *HIRUNDO URBICA* (L.). House-Martin.

Local names: *Curiancola* (Giglioli); *Rundulla* (gen.).

Another very common summer resident and passage migrant. It breeds in numbers in the towns on the low ground, and also in the hill-villages among the mountains. Dates of first arrival: March 14 (*Wharton*); March 20, 1883, and March 21, 1884 (*Whitehead*); March 29, 1910 (*Parrot*).

97. *RIPARIA RIPARIA* (L.). Sand-Martin.

A passage migrant in small numbers, which apparently does not stay to breed. Arrives early in April: first noted April 11, 1883, and April 8, 1884, by Whitehead, and not observed after the time of passage. Giglioli saw birds on the autumn passage between Ajaccio and Cargese on October 5.

98. *RIPARIA RUPESTRIS* (Scop.). Crag-Martin.

Local name : *Rondina* (Giglioli).

Not an uncommon resident, but subject to local movements according to the seasons. During the summer months, and up to December, according to Wharton, it haunts the mountains, and is generally to be met with in flocks, hawking near some sheltered and sunny clump of rocks. On raw and misty days it will descend almost to the plain even in summer, and from December to April small parties and pairs may often be met with near the coast. It breeds in colonies among the mountains, and is very common in the great gorge between Ghisoni and Ghisonaccia. Here Playne noticed building going on in April, and Whitehead found fresh eggs on May 13. Of two specimens obtained by Parrot in winter, one was much darker than the other, and he suggests that the lighter-coloured birds may eventually prove to be winter visitors from the Continent. Arrigoni's *Cotile obsoleta sarda* ('*Avicula*,' 1902, p. 103), which was described from a winter bird, is evidently a very light-coloured Crag-Martin.

99. *APUS MELBA* (L.). Alpine Swift.

A summer resident in small numbers in the mountains, occasionally descending to the plains; Whitehead first noted it on April 25, 1883, and April 10, 1881, while Playne met with it on April 10. Early in June Whitehead found it nesting in inaccessible rocks in the mountains. On two occasions I met with this species on the east coast: on May 10 a single bird was flying with the Common Swifts, and on May 29 Read and I noticed five hawking over the coast-road from Ghisonaccia to Bonifacio.

100. *APUS APUS KOLLIBAYI* Tsch. South-European Swift.
Apus apus kollibayi Tschusi, Ornithol. Jahrbuch, xiii, p. 234 (1902—Dalmatia).

Local names : *Sbira*, *Spirlo* (Giglioli); *Spiro* (north), *Strione* (south).

Swifts are exceedingly common summer residents in Corsica, and are as much a feature of the landscape

in the high mountain-forests as in the towns near the coast. The time of their arrival is noted by Whitehead as April 12, 1883, and April 8, 1884, while Wharton saw plenty after April 15, and Playne records it as seen on April 19. Parrot notes that a specimen from Ajaccio agrees closely with two other South-European skins, and ascribes them to this distinctly white-chinned race. Although in the towns these Swifts build in sites similar to those adopted by our English birds, and occasionally in crevices of the rocks among the mountains, many pairs have taken to breeding in the Great Spotted Woodpeckers' holes in the pine-forests. Whitehead observed them entering these holes; and while taking my first nest of Whitehead's Nuthatch from a dead pine, I flushed a Swift from a nest with three eggs in a Woodpecker's hole about 20 ft. below the Nuthatch's nest, and some 35 ft. from the ground. On another occasion a newly made Woodpecker's hole proved to contain a broken Woodpecker's egg, some days old, and a fresh Swift's egg, thus furnishing strong circumstantial evidence that the Swift sometimes ejects the Woodpecker. Average size of four Corsican eggs, 24.42×16.55 mm.; max. 25.3×16.7 , min. 23.9×16.5 mm.

101. *CAPRIMULGUS EUROPEUS MERIDIONALIS* Hart. South-European Nightjar.

Caprimulgus europæus meridionalis Hartert, Ibis, 1896, p. 370 (South Europe and N.W. Africa).

Local names: *Buccaccio* (Giglioli); *Notulo*.

A fairly common summer resident. Parrot ascribes two Corsican specimens to this race with some hesitation, and remarks on the distinct rusty-yellow ground-colour of the under surface, smaller size (wing 185 and 187 mm.), &c. Whitehead heard the note on May 12, and found the first eggs on May 28. Corsican eggs taken by Whitehead are decidedly smaller than those of the ordinary form. Average size of eight eggs (seven measured by Hartert and one by the writer), 29.28×20.73 mm.; max. 31×20 and 30×21.8 , min. 27.8×20 mm. British eggs average 31.5×22.28 mm.

102. *MEROPS APIASTER* L. Bee-eater.

Local names: *Maluraiolo* (Giglioli); *Turagiola* (south), *Barbarotolo*.

A common migrant on passage, considerable numbers remaining to breed in the low ground on the east side of the island, especially in the south-east, and in the Campo de l'Oro. Whitehead noted the first arrivals on April 19, 1883, and April 14, 1884, but in the north-east Wharton saw none till April 30. In Corsica the nesting-burrows are not made in steep banks, but generally in almost level ground, the entrance being made in the side of some shallow depression. Whitehead describes the tunnels as about 9 ft. long, but those which we opened were about 5 ft. long and were made in exceedingly hard ground. We found the first full clutch of seven eggs on May 29. The nests examined by Whitehead on June 4 all contained full sets of from five to seven eggs, very dirty and half-buried in beetles' wings, &c., "a moving mass of small maggots and various kinds of lice."

[*Coracias garrulus* L. Roller. No record of this conspicuous species in Corsica appears to exist, and it is evidently scarce in Sardinia, although it might be well expected to occur on passage.]

103. *UPUPE EOPS* L. Hoopoe.

Local names: *Pappagallo* (Giglioli); *Galeto di Marzo* (north), *Pupugia* (south).

A fairly common summer resident in the lower ground, but not ascending to any height in the mountains. Dates of first arrival: March 24, 1883, and March 30, 1884 (*Whitehead*); March 27, 1910 (*Parrot*). The breeding-season seems to be rather irregular. I found a nest with four fresh eggs deep down in an olive stump on May 9; while Whitehead obtained a clutch of six fresh eggs from a stone wall on May 27, and found four full-grown young in a nest in an old tree on June 7. Parrot remarks that the wing-measurement of a male from the Camp de l'Oro is small (146 mm.).

104. *ALCEDO ISPIDA* L. Kingfisher.

A winter visitor in fair numbers to the sea-coast and the mouths of the rivers from November (*Wharton*) to February (*Parrot*); but, according to *Whitehead*, it begins to get scarce after the end of January.

[*Picus viridis* L. Green Woodpecker.

Included in *Giglioli's* list on the authority of Professor *Combe*, of Corte, who states that it occurs occasionally in the island and that he has killed a specimen. This record requires confirmation.]

105. *DENDROCOPUS MAJOR PARROTI* Hartert. Corsican Great Spotted Woodpecker.

Dendrocopus major parroti Hartert, Orn. Monatsb. xix. p. 191 (1911—Corsica).

Local names: *Pichiu* (*Giglioli*); *Pichiarone* (north), *Pichiu* (south).

In the great-pine forests on the mountains, more especially from 2000 to 4000 feet, this species is a common resident, often working down to the coast in winter, according to *Whitehead*. We also found a few pairs breeding among the cork-oaks and olives on the plains on the south and east sides of the island, but there it is far from numerous. The Sardinian resident form was described by *Arrigoni* under the name of *D. major harterti* ('*Avicula*,' vi. p. 103, 1902), and Corsican specimens agree very closely with this race, but differ from it in some small particulars, the beak being longer and more slender, and the wing slightly longer (133–139 mm.). *Parrot* (*Ornith. Jahrbuch*, 1911, p. 27) ascribes a female obtained in the market (in winter) to the Central-European form. The breeding-season is variable: *Whitehead* found his first eggs on May 20, but we came across newly-hatched young on May 18 and May 24 at about 3000 ft., and also obtained fresh eggs from May 18 to 26 in the same district, while in the plain we heard the young squeaking in the nest on May 23. The number of eggs in the clutch varies from three to five. Average size of nineteen Corsican eggs, 27.12 × 19.7 mm.; max. 29.5 × 18 and 27 × 20.6, min. 25.5 × 20 and 29.5 × 18 mm.

106. *IYNX TORQUILLA TSCHUSII* Kleinschm. Sardinian Wryneck.

Iynx torquilla tschusii Kleinschmidt, Falco, iii. p. 103 (Sardinia—1907).

Whether the Wryneck is a resident in Corsica, as it is in Sardinia, or is only a winter visitor in fair numbers to the south of the island and probably also a passage migrant, is not yet definitely known. It has been recorded from the Ajaccio district and in the market, late in November (*Wharton*), in January, February, and the first days of March (*Bacchouse, Trevelyan, and Parrot*): while Whitehead only records two in January, and Wharton shot one, evidently on passage, on April 15 at Biguglia in the north-east. Even if the Wryneck proves not to be resident in the mountains of Corsica, it is quite possible that the short-winged birds with darkly barred under surface are winter immigrants to the southern plain from the Sardinian mountains.

107. *CUCULUS CANORUS KLEINSCHMIDTI* Schieb. Corsican Cuckoo.

Cuculus canorus kleinschmidti Schiebel, Ornitholog. Jahrbuch, xxi. p. 103 (1910—Corsica).

Local names: *Cucc* (Giglioli); *Cucu*.

A common summer visitor to all the lower ground on the island, and in smaller numbers also to the pine-forests; first noted on April 21 by Wharton, on April 15, 1883, and April 4, 1884, by Whitehead, and on April 15 by Plaync. Corsican specimens not only have the upper side darker but are also shorter-winged (*cf. Parrot, Orn. Jahrb. 1911, p. 26*). Whitehead took five eggs from nests of the Subalpine Warbler on May 17 and at other dates, and on May 21 we obtained eggs from nests of the Subalpine and Sardinian Warblers.

108. *ATHENE NOCTUA* (Scop.). Little Owl.

Giglioli describes this species as “Non rara e sedentaria”; but it is not even mentioned by any other observer, and we saw nothing of it. Further evidence is desirable, especially as it might naturally be expected to occur, and is common in Sardinia.

109. *ASIO OTUS* (L.). Long-eared Owl.

Whitehead records one example brought in by a man on December 18.

110. *ASIO FLAMMEUS* Pontopp. Short-eared Owl.

A rare winter visitor: Wharton saw one specimen on April 17, lately shot at Biguglia, and Whitehead shot one on December 13.

111. *OTUS SCOPS* (L.). Scops Owl.

Scops scops tchusii Schiebel, Ornitholog. Jahrbuch, xxi. p. 102 (1910—Corsica).

Local names: *Caccaricchiola*, *Malayella* (Giiglioli); *Cioccio*.

A common summer resident after the end of March, according to Whitehead, breeding not only in the low ground, but at a height of more than 3000 ft. in the mountains. Schiebel distinguishes it from the continental form by the more distinct clay-yellow tone, especially about the throat of the male, but Parrot finds that this character is not constant. The breeding-season is at the end of May: Whitehead took a clutch of four eggs, three much incubated and one nearly fresh, on June 3. We found two eggs in a hole of a cork-oak on May 21, and single eggs (one laid by a captured bird) were brought to us on May 23 and May 30. The monotonous note, repeated at regular intervals all the evening, is one of the most characteristic sounds of Corsican village-life. Jesse found this bird in the Bastia market, partly plucked to shew the fat!

112. *TYTO ALBA ALBA* (Scop.). [*Strix flammea* auct.] White-breasted Barn-Owl.

Strix ernesti Kleinschmidt, Ornith. Monatsber. ix. p. 163 (1901—Sardinia).

Local name: *Malayella*. Resident in small numbers on the east and south sides of the island on the lower ground, and, according to Parrot, haunting the little mortuary chapels which are so common in the island. An example was brought in alive to Whitehead by a boy on May 15; on May 16 I came across the remains of a distinctly white-breasted bird, and on the evening of May 21 one flew within a few yards of us. We also heard the well-known shrieking

note occasionally at night. Parrot obtained three specimens near Ajaccio in February and March, and gives a minute description of the differences in plumage. A male from Corsica was even whiter than Sardinian birds.

113. *FALCO PEREGRINUS BROOKII* Sharpe. Mediterranean Peregrine.

Falco brookei Sharpe, Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. xi. pp. 20, 222 (1873—Sardinia).

Local name: *Falco*. A few pairs of Peregrines breed on ledges of the precipitous rocks along the coast-line, and one or two pairs may also be met with among the mountains inland. Giglioli includes both *F. peregrinus* and *F. puniceus* in his list, and ascribes the birds from the interior to the former race, but as he did not obtain specimens and Wharton's record almost certainly refers to the Mediterranean form, *F. peregrinus peregrinus* may be deleted from the list pending further evidence. Eyries also exist on the islets in the Straits of Bonifacio, as well as on Elba, Monte Christo, &c. Whitehead found a nest with three nearly-fledged young on May 14, 1883. In 1884 a different site contained young about a week old on April 16, so that the eggs must have been laid early in March. A skin from Corsica in the Tring Museum, dated October 15, has all the characteristics of the Mediterranean race: wing $11\frac{3}{4}$ –12 in.

114. *FALCO SUBBUTEO* L. Hobby.

Giglioli saw one near Corte on October 7.

115. *FALCO ELEONORÆ* Géné. Eleonoran Falcon.

Whitehead saw a pair of large dark-coloured Hawks several times, hovering about the sea-coast, from April 15 onwards, but was unable to shoot them. Martorelli states that this species is found in Corsica. Well-known colonies exist on Toro and Vacca, off the coast of Sardinia.

116. *FALCO REGULUS* Pall. Merlin.

Giglioli records this species as seen in September and October in the neighbourhood of Bonifacio. Backhouse also saw a Hawk, apparently of this species, at Bocognano in winter.

117. *FALCO TINNUNCULUS* L. Kestrel.

Local name : *Falcheto*. Resident, but not in large numbers, and also a winter immigrant from the Continent. Although so plentiful during the winter on the low ground, only a small proportion stay to breed, nesting in rocks and ruined towers, &c. Whitehead took a clutch of six fresh eggs on April 29, and we obtained fresh and hard-set eggs on May 30, perhaps of second layings.

118. *AQUILA CHRYSÆTOS* (L.). Golden Eagle.

Local names : *Acula* (Giglioli) ; *Agula*.

A resident in the mountains, still surviving in small numbers. Jesse notes that two shot near Corte were both decidedly smaller than the usual type. Whitehead visited two eyries in the mountains, and saw this Eagle once or twice within a hundred yards, but was unable to shoot it. One cry, though empty, had been renovated with fresh pine-tops on June 12. Some of the feathers of an immature bird, including the characteristic tail-feathers, were still preserved in a house that we visited in 1908, though the bird had been shot several years previously. On May 20 I was able to examine an eyry which had evidently not been occupied that year, and on the same day we twice saw one of the old birds, which on one occasion came sailing with motionless wings over the pine-trees above us. Another site was reported to be inaccessible, and as it was late in the year we did not visit it.

119. *BUTEO BUTEO ARRIGONII* Picchi. Sardinian Buzzard.

Buteo buteo arrigonii Picchi, *Avicula*, vii. p. 10 (1903—Sardinia).

Local names : *Falco* (Giglioli) ; *Buzaiò* (south).

Still a fairly common resident, though apparently reduced in numbers since Whitehead's time, when six nests were found by him on rocks along the coast in April within quite a limited area. Signora Picchi has separated the Sardinian and Corsican form on account of its smaller size and reddish-brown colouring (*cf.* also Brooke, 'Ibis,' 1873, p. 150). At the present time a few pairs breed on the rocky coasts, and here and there may be found nesting high

up in the mountains. The clutch usually consists of two eggs, which are laid about the middle of April.

120. *Haliaëtus albicilla* (L.). Sea-Eagle.

A winter visitor to the south of the island and the lagoons on the east coast, while possibly a pair may be resident, as the bird has been observed late in the spring, and it is known to breed in Sardinia. Whitehead found it not uncommon on the lagoons in winter, preying on the wild fowl, and saw one bird often in April and May. Arrigoni states that it probably also breeds in Corsica. Parrot records a pair, one of which was a fully adult bird with white head, seen on February 21, 1910, circling high over the Campo de l'Oro.

121. *Nisaëtus fasciatus* (Vieill.). Bonelli's Eagle.

Giglioli saw an immature bird on September 26 near Porto Vecchio, and Schiebel also states that he recognised this species in 1910.

122. *Circus æruginosus* (L.). Marsh-Harrier.

A common winter visitor to the low ground, occasionally on the south-west, and more generally on the east side of the island: a few pairs remaining to breed in the swamps. Whitehead saw one as late as June 21, but did not find the nest.

123. *Circus pygargus* (L.). Montagu's Harrier.

Whitehead records an individual seen on November 17.

124. *Circus cyaneus* (L.). Hen Harrier.

A winter visitor and apparently also on passage. Wharton records two or three seen on the west side in winter, and Whitehead noted a passage on April 14. Five were seen on the wing at the same time, besides a few at intervals throughout the winter. Jesse obtained a specimen from near Lake Biguglia.

125. *Circus macrourus* (S. G. Gmel.). Pallid Harrier.

Giglioli records a specimen seen between Ajaccio and Sagone.

126. *ASTUR GENTILIS ARRIGONII* Kleinschm. Sardinian Goshawk.

Astur gentilis arrigonii Kleinschmidt, Ornithol. Monatsberichte, xi. p. 152 (1903—Sardinia).

Giglioli saw a young bird near Zicavo on September 21, and I met with an individual on the wing in a pine-forest at about 3000 ft. elevation in May, and saw a large nest in a very tall pine which may have belonged to this species. Kleinschmidt has separated the Sardinian form (to which in all probability Corsican birds also belong) on account of its smaller size and darker colouring; and Brooke ('Ibis,' 1873, p. 151) remarks that two Sardinian males weighed only 1 lb. 6 oz. and 1 lb. 4 oz.

127. *ASTUR NISUS WOLTERSTORFFI* Kleinschm. Sardinian Sparrow-Hawk.

Accipiter wolterstorffi Kleinschmidt, Ornitholog. Monatsberichte, xi. p. 168 (1901—Sardinia).

Local name : *Falcheto*. Resident in small numbers, both in the low ground and also in the mountain-forests. Whitehead notes that it is common in November, but less so in the other winter months, so that possibly immigrants from the Continent also occur on passage. Kleinschmidt has distinguished the Sardinian bird on account of its smaller size, darker mantle, and the closer and thicker barring of the under surface.

An egg was brought in to Whitehead on June 6, and on May 29 I found a female sitting on a slightly incubated clutch of four eggs in an alder growing in a swampy piece of wood. The nest was about 15 ft. from the ground and the eggs, which had a pronounced blue ground, averaged 38.8×31.9 mm.; max. 39.7×32 , min. 38.3×32 and 38.6×31.7 mm.

128. *MILVUS MILVUS* (L.). Red Kite.

Local name : *Filancio*. A fairly common and widely distributed resident in the plains and lower hills, but not plentiful anywhere. Playne once saw four on the wing together, probably attracted by the presence of carrion, and

occasionally one may be seen soaring over the out-skirts of the seaport towns. Whitehead failed to discover a nest, but we found a large young bird in grey down in a nest in a very large isolated pine near the coast on May 11, and saw a recently occupied nest, from which two eggs had been taken on the previous day, on May 16. This was probably a second attempt to breed.

129. *PERNIS APIVORUS* L. Honey-Buzzard.

Only recorded by Giglioli, who saw one on October 9 near Barghetta.

130. *PANDION HALIAËTUS* (L.). Osprey.

Local name: *Agula di Mare*. Although rarely allowed by the fishermen to breed, the Osprey is still a not uncommon resident in Corsica. In winter it is to be found on most of the lagoons along the east coast, and Backhouse noticed a pair haunting the Gulf of Ajaccio in the winter of 1890-91, but Parrot failed to find it there in 1910. Its breeding-places are the isolated rocks, sometimes only a few hundred yards from the shore. Whitehead found one such nest with three eggs on May 16, 1883, on a low rock, to which he was able to wade, and in the following year he took a clutch of three eggs from the same nest on April 23. In 1908-09 I visited three nesting-places, all at varying heights on isolated rocks. One nest was a huge structure of sticks and rubbish thrown up by the sea, but the others were very slight and carelessly built. As a rule, the eggs are broken by the fishermen, but we obtained one clutch of two eggs, and subsequently two clutches of one and two eggs respectively were sent to us.

131. *VULTUR MONACHUS* (L.). Black Vulture.

Giglioli records an individual seen at Porto Vecchio on September 26.

132. *GYPVS FULVUS* (Gm.). Griffon Vulture.

On May 23 R. H. Read and I had an excellent view of a Griffon soaring over a lagoon on the east coast. It passed overhead, and all the time that it remained in sight was

bullied by a Mediterranean Herring-Gull, which pursued it with loud outcry. The light sandy colouring of this bird rendered any confusion with *Fultur monachus* impossible, though the latter species is said to be the commoner of the two in Sardinia, where, however, both breed. If the western form, *G. fulvus occidentalis* Schlegel, proves to be distinct, as I believe to be the case, Corsican specimens will probably belong to this race.

133. GYPAËTUS BARBATUS (L.). Bearded Vulture.

Local name : *Altore* (Giglioli). A scarce resident, still surviving in very small numbers in the mountains. Whitehead saw the bird once or twice in mid-March, and also found the remains of one which had been shot, in the possession of a schoolmaster. Giglioli also records it as scarce, but resident in the lofty mountains in the middle of the island, and Parrot saw a very light-breasted individual on March 21, 1910, over the gorge of Porto (Spelunea). A quill-feather of this species was also picked up and brought to Schiebel in 1910.

134. CICONIA CICONIA (L.). White Stork.

A scarce visitor on passage only. Whitehead saw an example on April 2, which was gone by the next morning. On May 14, a curiously late date, two of these birds rose from one of the islands of the east coast where they had been resting, and made their way slowly to the mainland of Corsica.

135. CICONIA NIGRA (L.). Black Stork.

Giglioli saw two near Porto Vecchio on September 26.

136. EGATHEUS FALCINELLUS (L.). Glossy Ibis.

Giglioli states that he was assured at Bonifacio that this species was observed there almost regularly on both passages. Further evidence is required.

137. ARDEA CINEREA L. Common Heron.

Resident in small numbers, while probably a few also arrive in autumn to pass the winter. It occurs in low ground on both sides of the island in winter, chiefly, however, on the east coast. Whitehead saw a few as late as April 25, and

suspected that they bred, while we met with a pair or two in the lagoons throughout May, and a nest with two young birds was reported to us from a marsh on the east side in the spring of 1909.

138. *ARDEA PURPUREA* L. Purple Heron.

Whitehead met with this species commonly on the east coast from April 14 to 27, but not afterwards.

139. *EGRETTA ALBA* (L.). Great White Heron.

Wharton saw an example at Biguglia on April 30.

140. *EGRETTA GARZETTA* (L.). Little Egret.

Whitehead met with two of these Egrets on April 19, one of which he shot; the other stayed on till April 28.

141. *ARDEOLA RALLOIDES* (Scop.). Squacco Heron.

An occasional visitor in spring. Wharton shot one at Biguglia on May 15; Whitehead saw another on April 25; and I flushed one from a marsh on the east coast on May 10. Two days later, hearing that an "Eagle" had been shot and eaten at a village some eight miles distant, I managed to collect enough feathers to enable Dr. Hartert to state definitely that they also belonged to this species, and not to *Bubuleus ibis*, as I at first supposed.

142. *NYCTICORAX NYCTICORAX* (L.). Night-Heron.

Occurs on passage. Whitehead noted the arrival of a flock of eight on April 11, and more arrived subsequently till fourteen were present. None, however, were seen after April 23. Parrot obtained a young female from near Sagone on May 10, a date which suggests the possibility of its breeding.

143. *IXOBRYCHUS MINUTUS* (L.). Little Bittern.

Wharton mentions having seen a living specimen, taken near Bastia about mid-April.

144. *BOTAURUS STELLARIS* (L.). Bittern.

Only recorded in the winter months. Wharton states that it is not at all common; two females were shot at Biguglia

on March 17. Whitehead records it as seen on December 13 and 14, while one was sent in to him on December 23.

145. *PHENICOPTERUS ROSEUS* Pall. Flamingo.

An occasional straggler. It was accurately described to Whitehead by many natives; Giglioli records one killed at Porto Vecchio in March 1877, and Parrot obtained a male in full plumage from the Campo de l'Oro on April 3, 1910.

146. *ANSER FABALIS* (Lath.). Bean-Goose.

Whitehead saw a flock of wild Grey Geese (sp. ?) on both visits to the east coast; none, however, stayed after the beginning of March and no specimens were obtained. Jesse describes the Bean-Goose as a not very plentiful winter visitor: he records it in the flesh, shot near Lake Biguglia, and Giglioli also mentions it as a winter visitor.

147. *TADORNA TADORNA* (L.). Sheld-duck.

Giglioli says that this species has been described to him as of frequent occurrence at Bonifacio, but adds that he has not seen it himself.

148. *ANAS PLATYRHYNCHA* (L.). [*A. boschas* auct.] Wild Duck.

Resident in the marshes, and also a winter visitor. Wharton and Whitehead both state that it breeds in Corsica; the latter adds that young were first out on April 27. The absence of Ducks in summer from many of the lagoons on the east side which seem well adapted to them is, however, very noticeable.

149. *ANAS STREPERA* L. Gadwall.

Winter visitor to the lagoons. Whitehead shot one on February 11, but found the bird difficult to distinguish among the swarms of birds on the lagoons in winter; Jesse also shot one at Lake Biguglia, and Parrot obtained a drake from the Ajaccio market on February 17. Probably not uncommon.

150. *ANAS CRECCA* L. Teal.

Common winter visitor to the marshes on the south and east side, and not infrequently met with in the Ajaccio market.

151. *ANAS QUERQUEDULA* L. Garganey.

Wharton shot a specimen in the Campo de l'Oro on January 26, and Whitehead found it common between March 5 and April 18, after which date it was not noticed. He shot three males on March 22.

152. *ANAS ANGUSTIROSTRIS* Ménétr. Marbled Duck.

Parrot recognised an individual of this species in the Ajaccio market on February 17, 1910, but, as it was in bad condition, did not preserve it.

153. *ANAS PENELOPE* L. Wigeon.

A winter visitor, occurring in small numbers only in the south-west, but common on the east coast lagoons. Wharton shot a drake in the Campo de l'Oro on March 27, while Backhouse and Parrot both record the bird from the Ajaccio market in January and February. Giglioli met with this species at sea between Isola Rossa and San Fiorenzo on October 11, and Whitehead describes it as plentiful through the winter up to the beginning of March.

154. *SPATULA CLYPEATA* L. Shoveler.

A winter visitor. Whitehead first records this species on November 30, and saw a few individuals at intervals during the winter, but towards the end of February and the beginning of March they became plentiful, evidently on passage. Parrot records a drake in the Ajaccio market on February 17.

155. *DAFILA ACUTA* (L.). Pintail.

Whitehead describes the Pintail as common on the east coast lagoons in February and March. Several shot were young males, just changing plumage. Parrot records two from the Ajaccio market on February 17, and saw a flock of seven adult drakes on March 1 flying over the Gravone.

156. *NYROCA RUFINA* (Pall.). Red-crested Pochard.

Giglioli was informed that examples of this species had been taken in winter at Porto Vecchio. Further evidence of its presence is desirable.

157. *NYROCA FERINA* (L.). Pochard.

Winter visitor; possibly a few breed. Whitehead describes it as very plentiful in February and the beginning of March, and Parrot records two adult females from Ajaccio on February 4. On May 11, I saw about a dozen ducks on a secluded marsh on the east coast, and was able to identify at least two drake Pochards among them.

158. *NYROCA FULIGULA* (L.). Tufted Duck.

A common winter visitor to the east coast marshes. Wharton saw thousands there in winter, and considerable numbers still remained at the end of April, but on the west side he saw none. Whitehead found it more common on rush-covered ponds than in the lagoons. Backhouse and Parrot record it from the Ajaccio market in January. There appears to be no record at present of the White-eyed Duck, *Nyroca nyroca* (Güld.), but it probably also occurs among the flocks of ducks which haunt the east coast marshes in winter.

159. *NYROCA MARILA* (L.). Scaup.

Whitehead found the Scaup fairly common in winter and shot a drake.

160. *NYROCA CLANGULA* (L.) Goldeneye.

Whitehead saw two females in December and February; and small parties of males, from four to eight in number.

[*OIDEMIA* sp? Scoter.

Whitehead observed one of the Scoters, either *O. nigra* or *O. fusca*.]

161. *ERISMATURA LEUCOCEPHALA* (Scop.). White-headed Duck.

Apparently resident in small numbers. Wharton saw one example on Lake Biguglia, and Whitehead shot a drake on